

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION FOR:

REUSABLE REMINDER

INVENTORS:

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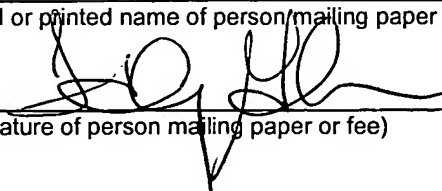
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REUSABLE REMINDER

This application claims the benefit of the filing date of each of United States provisional patent applications 60/439,939, filed January 14, 2003 and 60/428,879, filed November 25, 2002, the entirety of each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to reusable reminders, for example reminders used to note certain articles of daily use the supply of which requires replenishment and tasks to be performed.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Reminder lists are typically written on pieces of paper and when an item in the list has been acted upon it is lined through by a writing instrument. Reminder lists are typically used on a weekly or daily basis and often contain the same items from week to week or day to day. Such lists are typically disposed of upon completion of the list because once items are lined through the list is not usable. Since reminder lists often contain the same items from week to week a novel article for providing a reusable reminder not requiring a writing instrument to indicate an item is collected or a task completed is desirable.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides an economic and efficient reminder that records the status of an item and is reusable. The reusable reminder is formed with a bendable tab adjacent each position on a sheet. In another embodiment, the reusable reminder may be provided with a coupon for

the user to redeem. A plurality of the reminders of the present invention can also be provided in the form of a pad, booklet or the like.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide an article for reminding persons of the necessity of attending to certain matters listed on the article such as the purchase of household items, attending appointments or the like.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a reminder that serves as a continuous reminder to the user that a particular item requires, purchase, attention or otherwise, which reminder will remain as such until the item or items have been attended by the user.

It is yet a further object of the present invention to provide a reminder that is reusable from day to day, week to week or the like.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a reminder article that is capable of simple and economical production and manufacture employing a minimum number of parts, as well as convenience and ease of use.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a reusable reminder that does not require the use of a writing or other instrument to indicate an item has been purchased or a task completed.

It is still yet a further object of the present invention to provide a plurality of the reusable reminders in the form of a pad.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a reusable reminder or pad of such reminders which can be readily carried in a pocket or handbag.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a reusable reminder on which a redeemable coupon is provided.

It is a still additional object of the present invention to provide a reusable reminder in the form of a pad including a plurality of redeemable coupons.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front view of a preferred embodiment of the reusable reminder of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the reusable reminder of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a further preferred embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a most preferred embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

In the following description, for purposes of explanation, specific numbers, materials and configurations are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the invention. It will be apparent, however, to one having ordinary skill in the art that the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In some instances, well-known features may be omitted or simplified so as not to obscure the present invention. Furthermore, reference in the specification to “one embodiment” or “an embodiment” means that a particular feature, structure or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the invention. The appearances of the phrase “in one embodiment” in various places in the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment.

Now referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the reusable reminder **2** comprises essentially a sheet **10** having an indicia receiving surface **20**, said sheet further comprising at least one flexible tab **30** formed therein, said tab formed as a result of punching a portion of said sheet **10**. Sheet **10** may further comprise parallel lines **22** such as but not limited to ruled lines for aligning indicia to be listed on receiving surface **20**. Preferably said lines are aligned with said tabs **30**. Sheet **10** may further comprise bordering, legends or preprinted indicia of any language thereon.

A user uses the reminder **2** by listing items **24** on the indicia receiving surface **20**, preferably on lines **22**. As items **24** are purchased, collected or performed, the tab **30** corresponding to said item **24** is displaced by pressing same through sheet **10**. In this manner, items **24** are “checked off” without the need of a writing instrument. Upon completion of all of the items, the tabs **30** are returned to their original position, making the reminder **2** reusable.

Optionally items **24** such as staple items such as flour, milk, eggs and the like may be preprinted on sheet **10**, eliminating the need for the user to rewrite these items **24** each time a new reusable reminder **2** is to be used.

Now referring to FIG. 2, tabs **30** are preferably formed by punching through said sheet leaving the tab attached to said sheet along for example one edge **32**. Tab **30** may be folded back manually along edge **32** to indicate an item **24** is satisfied. Tabs **30** may be colored contrasting the remainder of sheet **10**.

Such a device is easily and readily usable and capable of reuse. The sheet **10** in a preferred embodiment may further comprise openings for receiving rings of a rings-type binder.

Referring to FIG. 3, a further embodiment of the invention is illustrated with similar numbers to those used in relation to FIGS. 1 and 2, with a prime (') added to differentiate the present embodiment. The embodiment of FIG. 3 provides an added feature wherein a coupon **34'** is incorporated on the face of sheet **10'** of reminder **2'**. The inclusion of coupon **34'** generates an advantage for the supplier of the reusable reminder **2'** as an additional income source and for the user as a discount on needed goods or services. Coupon **34'** is preferably printed at the lower edge of the sheet **10'** and separated from the upper portion by line **36'**, which may be perforated or simply printed. Coupon **34'** may be removably adhered to said sheet by use of an appropriate adhesive and release layer.

Referring now to FIG. 4, in a most preferred embodiment, a plurality of reminders **2** are provided in the form of a pad **40**, bound in a manner well known to those having ordinary skill in the art. The reminders **2** contained in said pad **40** may be identical or comprise different designs, colors, number of tabs **30**, or the like. Reproducing means such as but not limited to carbon paper sheets **44** may be disposed between sheets **10** of pad **40**. As will be apparent to those skilled in the art, pad **40** may contain sheets **10'** such as are depicted in FIG. 3 that include a coupon **34'**. Alternately, coupon **34'** may be included in the last pages of pad **40** or other locations, such as every 4 pages, according to the desires of the maker. The pad **40** in a preferred embodiment may further comprise openings for receiving rings of a rings-type binder. Pad **40** preferably further comprises a means for adhering the pad **40** to a surface, such as but not limited to an adhesive strip or a magnet disposed on the back of said pad **40**.

Sheets **10** may be formed of any suitable material such as paper, coated paper, cardstock, and the like.

Adhesive may be disposed on the back of sheet **10**. In the embodiment comprising a pad **40** containing a plurality of reminders **2**, a cardboard backing **42**, may be applied to said pad **40** to provide support for said pad **40**.

While the preferred embodiment has been described and illustrated it will be understood that changes in details and obvious undisclosed variations might be made without departing from

the spirit and principle of the invention and therefore the scope of the invention is not to be construed as limited to the preferred embodiment.